

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 14, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 32 as follows:

When the fuel assembly 1 of this embodiment is loaded in the reactor core of the boiling-water reactor (the whole fuel assemblies are represented by the fuel assemblies 1) to operate the boiling-water reactor, most the cooling water is directly introduced into space 80 among the fuel rods 11 of the fuel assembly 10 loaded in the reactor core passing through space 15 of the lower tie plate 13 and penetration holes 18 (Fig. ~~6~~ 7A) formed in the fuel rod supporting portion 14. The remainder of the cooling water that flows into space 15 of the lower tie plate 13 flows through the coolant inlet port 28 into the coolant ascending path 25 of the water rod 19, and is delivered into the ~~region~~ space 80 over the fuel rod supporting portion 14 through the inverting portion 27, the coolant descending path 26 and the coolant delivery ports 29. The cooling water delivered from the cooling water delivery ports 29 may be in the form of a liquid or a gas (vapor) depending upon the flow rate of the cooling water that flows into the water rod 19 through the cooling water inlet port 28 as described earlier. According to this embodiment, the pressure loss by the fuel rod supporting portion 14 and the specifications of the inner tube 20 and the outer tube 21 have been selected in advance, so that the condition of Fig. 3A develops in the water rod 19 when the flow rate in the reactor core is smaller than 100% (flow rate at the maximum value S_0 of Fig. 2 in the water rod 19), and the condition of Fig. 3C develops in the water rod 19 when the flow rate in the reactor core is 110% (flow rate at the point R of Fig. 2 in the water rod 19).